

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TEL AV 05781 021637Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-20 SSM-05 IO-14 ACDA-12 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04
SIL-01 EUR-12 /132 W
-----000278 021641Z /50

P R 021600Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2914
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMCONSUL JERUSALE
USMISSION SINAI

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 5781

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, PINS, IS
SUBJECT: HISTADRUT HOLDS FIRST MAY DAY PARADE IN TWELVE YEARS

1. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 12 YEARS THE HISTADRUT
LABOR CONFEDERATION HELD A MAY DAY PARADE IN
TEL AVIV. IN RECENT YEARS ITS LEADERS REPORTEDLY HAD
BEEN RETICENT TO CONDUCT SUCH PARADES IN ORDER TO
AVOID THE MASSIVE DISPLAY OF RED FLAGS WHICH MANY
ISRAELIS IDENTIFY WITH THE SOVIET UNION, COMMUNISM,
AND THE ENEMIES OF THEIR COUNTRY. HOWEVER, THIS YEAR
NO SUCH RETICENCE WAS VISIBLE, ALTHOUGH HISTADRUT AND
LABOR PARTY LEADERS WERE CAREFUL TO POINT OUT THAT THE
RED FLAG AS THE SYMBOL OF THE WORKERS' MOVEMENT HAD
LONG ANTECEDED COMMUNISM AND THAT THEY HAD NO INTENTION
TO MAKE ISRAEL'S MAY DAY MARCH A GESTURE OF SOLIDARITY
WITH THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 TEL AV 05781 021637Z

WM THE PRINCIPAL MOTIVE FOR THE PARADE IN WHICH SOME
SIX TO SEVEN THOUSAND MEMBERS, MOSTLY YOUNG PEOPLE,
MARCHED AND WHICH WAS WATCHED BY A CROWD ESTIMATED
AT BETWEEN 100 AND 200 THOUSAND, WAS RESENTMENT THAT
THE GOVERNMENT HAD NOT INVITED THE HISTADRUT TO PARTICIPATE
IN ANY OFFICIALLY-SPONSORED 30TH ANNIVERSARY
EVENTS. THUS, SECRETARY GENERAL MESHEL CALLED FOR

THE PARADE TO DEMONSTRATE THE VITAL ROLE WHICH THE WORKERS' MOVEMENT HAD PLAYED IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ISRAEL.

3. THE PARADE FLOATS DISPLAYED THE ROLE OF HISTADRUT IN BUILDING UP ISRAEL'S ARMY, WELFARE SYSTEM, COOPERATIVES, THE EDUCATION SYSTEM, AND INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES. THE SPIRIT WAS GENERALLY FESTIVE RATHER THAN DEFIANT. THE MARCHERS INCLUDED NOT ONLY YOUNG JEWISH WORKERS, ATHLETES, AND VARIOUS ETHNIC ORGANIZATIONS, BUT ALSO ARABS, DRUSES, BEDUINS, AND THE BLACK HEBREW COMMUNITY OF DIMONA, WHICH RECEIVED EXTENSIVE APPLAUSE FROM THE AUDIENCE IN THE GRANDSTANDS. TOWARD THE END OF THE PARADE THERE WERE SEVERAL GROUPS IDENTIFIED WITH THE RAKAH COMMUNISTS AND THE LEFT WING SHELLI, CARRYING THE ONLY ANTI-GOVERNMENT SLOGANS. CONSPICUOUSLY ABSENT WAS THE LIKUD FACTION OF HISTADRUT, WHICH DENOUNCED THE DISPLAY OF THE RED FLAGS, AND ANY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT, SUCH AS MINISTER OF LABOR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS ISRAEL KATZ. MESHEL'S SPEECH WAS MODERATE AND NON-PARTISAN CONTAINING NOTHING NEW. THOSE WHO DID ATTEND SEEMED TO HAVE A GOOD, LIGHTEARTED TIME ON A BEAUTIFUL, WARM DAY.

VIETS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR, PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TELAV05781
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780187-0047
Format: TEL
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197805100/aaaadhqw.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d6324693-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2511780
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HISTADRUT HOLDS FIRST MAY DAY PARADE IN TWELVE YEARS
TAGS: ELAB, PINS, IS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d6324693-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014